News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Contact: Kevin Kerstein Publicity Manager Churchill Downs Racetrack (610) 420-6971 (mobile) (502) 635-4712 (office) Kevin.Kerstein@KyDerby.com

THREE-TIME STAKES WINNER CAROTARI TOPS SATURDAY'S ULTRA COMPETITIVE MIGHTY BEAU OVERNIGHT STAKES

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (Monday, May 31, 2021) – **William Branch**'s three-time stakes winning gelding **Carotari** heads a field of 10 accomplished turf sprinters in Saturday's fifth running of the \$110,000 Mighty Beau Overnight Stakes at Churchill Downs.

The Mighty Beau, run at five furlongs on the Matt Winn Turf Course, is slated as Race 11 with a post time of 5:58 p.m. (all times Eastern). First post for the 11-race program is 12:45 p.m. On-track guests are invited to stay after the finale to watch the 153rd running of the \$1.5 million Belmont Stakes (Grade I) on the Big Board. Post time for the Belmont is 6:49 p.m.

Carotari, a 5-year-old son of **Artie Schiller**, was victorious two starts ago in the \$75,000 Silks Run Stakes at Gulfstream Park. The six-time winner finished fifth in the \$250,000 TwinSpires Turf Sprint (GII) on Kentucky Oaks Day. Trained by **Brian Lynch**, Carotari will be ridden by **Julien Leparoux** from post No. 3.

Also entered in the Mighty Beau is **Susan** and **Jim Hill**'s comebacking Grade II winner **Totally Boss**. The now 6-year-old son of Street Boss won the \$700,000 Turf Sprint (GIII) at Kentucky Downs in 2019. In his 5-year-old campaign, Totally Boss was the runner-up finisher in the \$150,000 Shakertown (GII) at Keeneland. The **Rusty Arnold**-trainee will be ridden by **Brian Hernandez Jr**. from post 10.

The Mighty Beau also attracted stakes winners Classy John, Elusive Mischief and Just Might.

The complete field from the rail out (with jockey and trainer): **Smart Remark** (Rafael Bejarano, Vicki Oliver); Just Might (Colby Hernandez, Michelle Lovell); Carotari (Leparoux, Lynch); **Johnny Unleashed** (Gerardo Corrales, Eric Foster); **High Crime** (James Graham, Darrin Miller); **The Connector** (Francisco Arrieta, Mark Hoffman); Classy John (Corey Lanerie, Dallas Stewart); **Verb** (Mitchell Murrill, Keith Desormeaux); Elusive Mischief (Chris Landeros, Ian Wilkes); and Totally Boss (Hernandez, Arnold).

VAUGHAN RECORDS FIRST STATESIDE WIN WITH ALNASEEM (GB) – Former European-based trainer Ed Vaughan recorded his first win in North America on Sunday when front-running Alnaseem (GB) captured a \$104,000 conditioned allowance event at Churchill Downs.

Alnaseem, who was ridden to a 3 ³/₄-length victory on the Matt Winn Turf Course by **Adam Beschizza**, was Vaughan's ninth starter in the U.S.

"We got over to the U.S. in November and have been stabled at Keeneland since then," Vaughan said. "In (Alnaseem's) stateside-debut, she ran as we expected. She was training well but had to get used to learning how horses run here being quicker from the gates."

Beschizza and Vaughan have teamed up several times in Europe prior to Beschizza moving his tack to the U.S. in late 2017. The 28-year-old Beschizza used to be Vaughan's primary stable jockey in Europe.

Vaughan took out his trainer's license in 2004 and was based at Newmarket until his move to Keeneland in 2020. He spent four years working in the U.S. after graduating from the Irish National Stud course. He served as the assistant trainer to **Noel Chance** prior to joining forces with the late **Alec Stewart**. Vaughan started training on his own following Stewart's death in 2004, eventually moving his stable to Newmarket in 2011.

In Europe, Vaughan campaigned multiple Group II winner Dame Malliot and Group III winner Robin Hoods Bay (GB).

"The Kentucky circuit is a good place to be based," Vaughan said. "Being at Keeneland it gives you the option to ship to many tracks around the area including Churchill Downs."

For more information on Vaughan, fans can follow him on his Twitter at @edvaughan1.

DOWN THE STRETCH – There was a \$4,392 carryover in the 20-cent Derby City 6 that spanned Races 4-9 Monday. First post was 12:45 p.m. ... After dark days on Tuesday and Wednesday, racing at Churchill Downs will continue Thursday with Twilight Thursday presented by Blue Moon. The evening of racing features \$1 Blue Moon and domestic draft beer, live music from **Kiana and the Sun Kings** and local food trucks. The first of eight races will get underway at 5 p.m. ... Likely Belmont Stakes favorite **Essential Quality** will depart Churchill Downs for Belmont Park by van on Sunday at 2 p.m. and is expected to arrive between 4-5 a.m. Monday. ... For more information and to purchase tickets for the Spring Meet, visit www.churchilldowns.com.